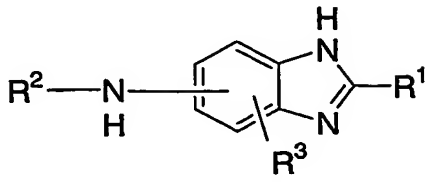
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula I:



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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, wherein:

a is 0 or 1;

b is 0 or 1;

R^1 is selected from aryl groups and heterocyclyl groups, wherein said aryl groups and heterocyclyl groups are optionally substituted with one or more R^4 groups;

R^2 is selected from

8) $-(C=O)NR^5R^6$,
9) $-(C=O)_a(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
10) $-(C=O)_a(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,
11) $-(C=O)_a(C_{2-8})$alkynyl,
12) $-(C=O)_a(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,
13) $-(C=O)_a(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl, and
14) $-(C=O)_a$aryl,

wherein, said aryl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl are each optionally substituted with one or more groups independently chosen from R^4 or two R^4 groups can, whether or not on the same atom, be taken together with any attached or intervening atoms to which they are attached, form a 3-7 membered ring;

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from:

29) hydrogen,
30) halogen,
31) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
32) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,
33) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkynyl,
34) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,

35) -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl,
36) -$(C=O)_aO_b$aryl,
37) -$(C=O)_aNR^5R^6$,
38) -$O_b(C=O)NR^5R^6$,
39) -$NR^5(C=O)_aO_bR^b$,
40) -$NR^5(C=O)NR^5R^6$,
41) -$NR^5S(O)_2R^b$,
42) -(C=O)OH,
43) trifluoromethoxy,
44) trifluoroethoxy,
45) -$O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl,
46) -$S(O)_2O_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
47) -$S(O)_2O_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,
48) -$S(O)_2O_b(C_{2-8})$alkynyl,
49) -$S(O)_2O_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,
50) -$S(O)_2O_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl,
51) -$S(O)_2O_b$aryl,
52) -$NR^5S(O)_2NR^5R^6$,
53) -CN
54) -NO_2,
55) oxo, and
56) -OH,

wherein said aryl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl are each optionally substituted with one or more R^Z groups;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from:

14) hydrogen,
15) -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
16) -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,
17) -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkynyl,
18) -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,
19) -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl,
20) -$(C=O)_aO_b$aryl,
21) -$(C=O)\ N(R^b)_2$,

22) trifluoromethoxy,
23) trifluoroethoxy,
24) -(C_{1-10})perfluoroalkyl,
25) -$S(O)_2N(R^b)_2$, and
26) -$S(O)_2O_b R^b$,

wherein, said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocylyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl are optionally substituted with one or more R^Z groups, or

R^5 and R^6 can be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle with 5-7 members in each ring and optionally containing, in addition to the nitrogen, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from N, O, and S, wherein said monocylcic or bicyclic heterocycle is optionally substituted with one or more R^Z groups;

R^Z is selected from:

30) hydrogen,
31) halogen,
32) -$(C=O)_aO_b$(C_{1-10})alkyl,
33) -$(C=O)_aO_b$(C_{2-8})alkenyl,
34) -$(C=O)_aO_b$(C_{2-8})alkynyl,
35) -$(C=O)_aO_b$(C_{3-10})cycloalkyl,
36) -$(C=O)_aO_b$(C_{3-8})heterocyclyl,
37) -$(C=O)_aO_b$aryl,
38) -$(C=O)_aN(R^b)_2$,
39) -$O_b(C=O)N(R^b)_2$,
40) -$NR^b(C=O)_aO_bR^b$,
41) -$NR^b(C=O)N(R^b)_2$,
42) -$NR^bS(O)_2R^b$,
43) -(C=O)OH,
44) trifluoromethoxy,
45) trifluoroethoxy,
46) -O_b(C_{1-10})perfluoroalkyl,
47) -$S(O)_2O_b$(C_{1-10})alkyl,
48) -$S(O)_2O_b$(C_{2-8})alkenyl,
49) -$S(O)_2O_b$(C_{2-8})alkynyl,

50) -$S(O)_2O_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,
51) -$S(O)_2O_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl,
52) -$S(O)_2O_b$aryl,
53) -$S(O)_2N(R^b)_2$
54) -$NR^bS(O)_2N(R^b)_2$
55) -CN,
56) -NO_2,
57) oxo, and
58) -OH,

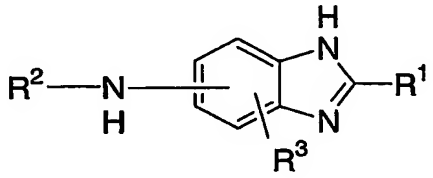
wherein, said aryl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl are each optionally substituted with one or more R^a groups;

R^a is selected from hydrogen, OH, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, halogen, CO_2H, CN, $O(C=O)C_1$-C_6 alkyl, NO_2, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, -$O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl, and NH_2; and

R^b is hydrogen, -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl, -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl, -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkynyl, -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl, -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl, -$(C=O)_aO_b$aryl, and $(O)_2R^a$; -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl, -$S(O)_2N(R^a)_2$, -$S(O)_2O_bR^a$, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, or -$O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl,

wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, and heterocyclyl are optionally substituted with up to three substituents selected from CO_2H, NH_2, OH, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, halogen, CN, $O(C=O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, NO_2, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, -$O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl and $N(R^a)_2$.

2. A compound according to Claim 1 and of formula I:



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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof, wherein:

a is 0 or 1;

b is 0 or 1;

R^1 is selected from aryl groups and heterocyclyl groups, wherein said aryl groups and heterocyclyl groups are optionally substituted with one or more R^4 groups;

R^2 is selected from

1) $-(C=O)NR^5R^6$,
2) $-(C=O)_a(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
3) $-(C=O)_a(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,
4) $-(C=O)_a(C_{2-8})$alkynyl,
5) $-(C=O)_a(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,
6) $-(C=O)_a(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl, and
7) $-(C=O)_a$aryl,

wherein, said aryl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl are each optionally substituted with one or more groups independently chosen from R^4 or two R^4 groups can, whether or not on the same atom, be taken together with any attached or intervening atoms to which they are attached, form a 5-7 membered ring;

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from:

1) hydrogen,
2) halogen,
3) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
4) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,
5) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkynyl,
6) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,
7) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl,
8) $-(C=O)_aO_b$aryl,
9) $-(C=O)_aNR^5R^6$,
10) $-O_b(C=O)NR^5R^6$,
11) $-NR^5(C=O)_aO_bR^b$,
12) $-NR^5(C=O)NR^5R^6$,
13) $-NR^5S(O)_2R^b$,
14) $-(C=O)OH$,
15) trifluoromethoxy,
16) trifluoroethoxy,
17) $-O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl,
18) $-S(O)_2O_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl,

19) -S(O)$_2$O$_b$(C_{2-8})alkenyl,
20) -S(O)$_2$O$_b$(C_{2-8})alkynyl,
21) -S(O)$_2$O$_b$(C_{3-10})cycloalkyl,
22) -S(O)$_2$O$_b$(C_{3-8})heterocyclyl,
23) -S(O)$_2$O$_b$aryl,
24) -$NR^5S(O)_2NR^5R^6$,
25) -CN
26) -NO_2,
27) oxo, and
28) -OH,

wherein said aryl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl are each optionally substituted with one or more R^Z groups;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from:

1) hydrogen,
2) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C_{1-10})alkyl,
3) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C_{2-8})alkenyl,
4) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C_{2-8})alkynyl,
5) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C_{3-10})cycloalkyl,
6) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C_{3-8})heterocyclyl,
7) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$aryl,
8) -(C=O) N(R^b)$_2$,
9) trifluoromethoxy,
10) trifluoroethoxy,
11) -(C_{1-10})perfluoroalkyl,
12) -S(O)$_2$N(R^b)$_2$, and
13) -S(O)$_2$O$_b$ R^b,

wherein, said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocylyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl are optionally substituted with one or more R^Z groups, or

R^5 and R^6 can be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle with 5-7 members in each ring and optionally containing, in addition to the nitrogen, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from N, O, and S, wherein said monocylcic or bicyclic heterocycle is optionally substituted with one or more R^Z groups;

R^Z is selected from:

1) hydrogen,
2) halogen,
3) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
4) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,
5) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkynyl,
6) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,
7) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl,
8) $-(C=O)_aO_b$aryl,
9) $-(C=O)_aN(R^b)_2$,
10) $-O_b(C=O)N(R^b)_2$,
11) $-NR^b(C=O)_aO_bR^b$,
12) $-NR^b(C=O)N(R^b)_2$,
13) $-NR^bS(O)_2R^b$,
14) -(C=O)OH,
15) trifluoromethoxy,
16) trifluoroethoxy,
17) $-O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl,
18) $-S(O)_2O_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
19) $-S(O)_2O_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,
20) $-S(O)_2O_b(C_{2-8})$alkynyl,
21) $-S(O)_2O_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,
22) $-S(O)_2O_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl,
23) $-S(O)_2O_b$aryl,
24) $-S(O)_2N(R^b)_2$
25) $-NR^bS(O)_2N(R^b)_2$
26) -CN,
27) $-NO_2$,
28) oxo, and
29) -OH,

wherein, said aryl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl are each optionally substituted with one or more R^a groups;

R^a is selected from hydrogen, OH, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, halogen,

CO_2H, CN, $O(C=O)C_1$-C_6 alkyl, NO_2, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, $-O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl, and NH_2; and

R^b is hydrogen, $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl, $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl, $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkynyl, $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl, $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl, $-(C=O)_aO_b$aryl, and $(O)_2R^a$; $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl, $-S(O)_2N(R^a)_2$, $-S(O)_2O_bR^a$, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, or $-O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl,

wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, and heterocyclyl are optionally substituted with up to three substituents selected from CO_2H, NH_2, OH, $(C_1$-$_6)$alkoxy, halogen, CN, $O(C=O)C_1$-$_6$ alkyl, NO_2, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, $-O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl and $N(R^a)_2$.

3. A compound according to claim 2, wherein R^1 is selected from phenyl, naphthinyl, benzimidazolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiophenyl, benzoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzodihydrofuranyl, 1,3-benzodioxilyl, 2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxinyl, indolyl, indazolyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl, furanyl, thienyl, imidazolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, isoxazolyl, isothiazol, isoindolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyrrolinyl, pyrazolinyl, thiadiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, and triazolyl, further wherein R^1 is optionally substituted with one or more R^4 groups.

4. A compound according to claim 3, wherein R^1 is selected from thiazolyl, pyridinyl pyrazolinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl, and oxazolyl, further wherein R^1 is optionally substituted with one or more R^4 groups.

5. A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^1 is selected from thiazol-4-yl, thiazol-5-yl, pyrazol-3-yl, pyrazol-4-yl, pyridin-2-yl, pyrazolinyl, oxazol-5-yl, and oxazol-4-yl, further wherein R^1 is optionally substituted with one or more R^4 groups.

6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein:

R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from:

1) hydrogen,
2) halogen,
3) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-10})$alkyl,
4) $-(C=O)_aO_b(C_{2-8})$alkenyl,

5) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C$_{2-8}$)alkynyl,
6) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C$_{3-10}$)cycloalkyl,
7) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C$_{3-8}$)heterocyclyl,
8) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$aryl,
9) -(C=O)$_a$NR^{5}R^6,
10) -NR^{5}S(O)$_2$R^b,
11) trifluoroethoxy,
12) -O$_b$(C$_{1-10}$)perfluoroalkyl,
13) -S(O)$_2$O$_b$(C$_{1-10}$)alkyl,
14) -S(O)$_2$O$_b$(C$_{3-10}$)cycloalkyl,
15) -CN,
16) oxo, and
17) -OH,

wherein said aryl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl are each optionally substituted with one or more R^Z groups.

7. A compound according to claim 6, wherein:

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from:

1) hydrogen,
2) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C$_{1-10}$)alkyl,
3) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C$_{3-10}$)cycloalkyl,
4) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$(C$_{3-8}$)heterocyclyl,
5) -(C=O)$_a$O$_b$aryl,
6) -(C=O) N(R^b)$_2$, and
7) (C$_{1-10}$)perfluoroalkyl.

further wherein, said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocylyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl are optionally substituted with one or more R^Z groups, or

R^5 and R^6 can be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle with 5-7 members in each ring and optionally containing, in addition to the nitrogen, one or two additional heteroatoms selected from N, O, and S, wherein said monocylcic or bicyclic heterocycle is optionally substituted with one or more R^z groups.

8. A compound according to claim 7, wherein R^b is selected from: hydrogen,-$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{1-6})$alkyl, -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-6})$cycloalkyl, -$(C=O)_aO_b(C_{3-6})$heterocyclyl, -$(C=O)_aO_b$aryl, (C_{1-3})perfluoroalkyl, and wherein said alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, and heterocyclyl are optionally substituted with up to two substituents selected from NH_2, OH, (C_{1-6})alkoxy, halogen, CO_2H, CN, $O(C=O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, NO_2, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoroethoxy, -$O_b(C_{1-10})$perfluoroalkyl and $N(R^a)_2$.

9. A compound according to claim 8, wherein R^2 is -$(C=O)NR^5R^6$.

10. A compound according to claim 8, wherein R^2 is –$(C=O)_a(C_{1-10})$alkyl, -$(C=O)_a(C_{2-8})$alkenyl, -$(C=O)_a(C_{2-8})$alkynyl, -$(C=O)_a(C_{3-10})$cycloalkyl,-$(C=O)_a(C_{3-8})$heterocyclyl, and -$(C=O)_a$aryl, further wherein said aryl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heterocyclyl, and cycloalkyl are each optionally substituted with one or more groups independently chosen from R^4 or two R^4 groups can, whether or not on the same atom, be taken together with any attached or intervening atoms to which they are attached, form a 5-7 membered ring.

11. A compound according to claim 1, selected from:
N-isopropyl-N-phenyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-[(1R)-1-phenylpropyl]-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(3,5-dichlorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-benzyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-butyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(2-phenylethyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(2-methylbenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(2-fluorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(2-chlorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-[(1S)-1-phenylethyl]-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(3-fluorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;

N-(4-methylbenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(2,4-dichlorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(3,4-dichlorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(4-methoxyphenyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(3-methylbenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
N-(1-phenylcyclopropyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
N-(4-bromobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
N-(4-methoxybenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
6-({[(3-methylphenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazole;
6-[({[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-[({[1-(1-naphthyl)ethyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3,5-difluorophenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
N-methyl-N-phenyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-benzyl-N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-2(1H)-carboxamide;
N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]-3,4-dihydroquinoline-1(2H)-carboxamide;
N-ethyl-N-phenyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
6-({[methyl(2-methylphenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[methyl(3-methylphenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[methyl(4-methylphenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

N-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;

6-({[sec-butyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[allyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[(2-hydroxyethyl)(phenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[(4-hydroxyphenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

N-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;

6-({[(3-chlorophenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[(4-chlorophenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[(2-cyanoethyl)(phenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-[({methyl[4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[(3,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[(2,4-difluorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[benzyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[methyl(1-naphthyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[phenyl(1-phenylethyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[cyclohexyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

N-(1-phenylcyclopropyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;

N-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-
Benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
6-({[(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-[({[(1R)-1-phenylpropyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-
3H-benzimidazole;
6-[({[(1S)-1-phenylpropyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-
3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3-chlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazole;
6-({[(2,5-dichlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazole;
6-({[(3,5-dichlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H
benzimidazole;
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-6[({[3(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]
-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[benzyl(ethyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazole;
6-[({methyl[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-[({methyl[(1S)-1-phenylethyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-{[(2-phenylpyrrolidin-1-yl)carbonyl]amino}-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-
3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(2-phenylcyclopropyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-
3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(4-methoxyphenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3,5-dimethylphenyl)(methyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(5-isopropyl-2-methylphenyl)(methyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(6-methoxypyridinium-2-yl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[ethyl(3-methylbenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3,4-dichlorobenzyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-[({[(2-bromothien-3-yl)methyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-[({methyl[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-3-ium-2-yl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(2,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
N-cyclopropyl-N-phenyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
N-[4-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]-N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-N-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)-phenyl]urea;
1-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-urea;
2-Pyridin-2-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-ylamine;
2-Oxazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-ylamine;
2-(1H-Pyrazol-3-yl)-3H-benzoimidazol-5-ylamine;
2-(1-Methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-3H-benzoimidazol-5-ylamine; and
pharmaceutically acceptable salts and stereoisomers thereof.

12. A compound according to claim 11, selected from:
N-(3-fluorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-(3,4-dichlorobenzyl)-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
N-benzyl-N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
N-ethyl-N-phenyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]urea;
6-({[methyl(3-methylphenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[isopropyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;

6-({[sec-butyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[allyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3-chlorophenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-[({[(1R)-1-phenylpropyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3-chlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3,5-dichlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[benzyl(ethyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[(3,5-dimethylphenyl)(methyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
6-({[ethyl(3-methylbenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazole;
N-cyclopropyl-N-phenyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
1-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-urea; and
pharmaceutically acceptable salts and stereoisomers thereof.

13. A compound according to claim 1, selected from:
3-Phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
2-Phenoxy-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
trans-5-{[1-(2-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
5-(4-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
6-(3-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
(1R,2R)-2-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-amide;

(1S,2S)-2-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-amide;
2-Methyl-3-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
5-(2-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
5-{[1-(1-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
5-(2,3-Diphenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
5-(2,2-Diphenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
5-(3-Cyclohexyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
5-(2-Bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Methyl-2-phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Methoxy-2-phenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Indan-2-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-[(1-Indan-1-yl-methanoyl)-amino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Cyclopentyl-2-phenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Cyclohexyl-2-phenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-[2-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-{[1-(1-Phenyl-cyclopentyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(3,3-Diphenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Biphenyl-4-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
(3S)-3-Phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(3R)-3-Phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2R)-2-Phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
6-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
2-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
6-[2-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
N-(2-Thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetamide;
N-(2-Thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-2-p-tolyl-acetamide;

6-[2-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-
3H-benzoimidazole;
N-(2-Thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetamide;
6-[2-(3-Nitro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-
benzoimidazole;
6-[2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-
benzoimidazole;
6-[2-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-
benzoimidazole;
2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
2-(3,4-Difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
6-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-
benzoimidazole;
2-(3,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
2-(3,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
6-[2-(4-Isopropyl-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-
benzoimidazole;
6-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-
benzoimidazole;
N-(2-Thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-2-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-acetamide;
2-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
6-[2-(4-Hydroxy-phenyl)-propanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-
benzoimidazole;
2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
6-(2-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-
benzoimidazole;
2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
3-Methyl-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2R)-2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-
benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
(2S)-2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-
benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
(2R)-3-Methyl-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2S)-3-Methyl-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;

3-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2R)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
(2S)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2R)-2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2S)-2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;

3-(3-Chlorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

3-(4-Methylphenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

3-(3-Fluorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

3-(2-Fluorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

3-(4-Methylphenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]propanamide;

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]cyclopropanecarboxamide;

1-(3-Fluorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]cyclopropanecarboxamide;

1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]cyclopropanecarboxamide;

1-(3,5-Dichlorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]cyclopropanecarboxamide;

1-(3,5-Difluorophenyl)-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]cyclopropanecarboxamide;

2-Hydroxy-3-methyl-2-phenyl-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

(2R)-2-Hydroxy-3-methyl-2-phenyl-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

(2S)-2-Hydroxy-3-methyl-2-phenyl-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

2-Cyclopropyl-2-hydroxy-2-phenyl-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]acetamide;

2-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-3-methyl-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

(2R)-2-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-3-methyl-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide;

(2S)-2-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-3-methyl-N-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]butanamide; and

pharmaceutically acceptable salts and stereoisomers thereof.

14. A compound according to claim 13 selected from:

3-Phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;

trans-5-{[1-(2-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;

6-(3-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;

(1R,2R)-2-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-amide;
(1S,2S)-2-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-amide;
2-Methyl-3-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
5-(2-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-{[1-(1-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
6-(2-Indan-2-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazole;
(3S)-3-Phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(3R)-3-Phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2R)-2-Phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
6-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazole;
2-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
2-(3,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
2-(3,5-Difluoro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
N-(2-Thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-2-(3,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-acetamide;
2-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
3-Methyl-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2R)-2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;

(2S)-2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-acetamide;
(2R)-3-Methyl-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2S)-3-Methyl-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
3-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2R)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide
2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2R)-2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2S)-2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-N-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and stereoisomers thereof.

15. A method for modulating a function mediated by the androgen receptor in a mammal in need of such modulation comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof.

16. A method of activating the function of the androgen receptor in a mammal in need of such activation comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof.

17. The method of Claim 16, wherein said function mediated by the androgen receptor is activated in bone or muscle tissue and blocked in the prostate or the uterus.

18. A method of treating a condition in a mammal which is caused by androgen deficiency, which can be ameliorated by androgen replacement, or which can be increased by androgen replacement, which condition is selected from weakened muscle tone, osteoporosis, osteopenia, glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis, periodontal disease, bone

fracture, bone damage following bone reconstructive surgery, sarcopenia, frailty, aging skin, male hypogonadism, postmenopausal symptoms in women, atherosclerosis, hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, obesity, aplastic anemia and other hematopoietic disorders, arthritic condition, HIV-wasting, prostate cancer, cancer cachexia, muscular dystrophies, Alzheimer's disease, premature ovarian failure, and autoimmune disease, comprising administering to the mammal in need of such treatment, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof.

19. The method according to Claim 18 wherein said condition is osteoporosis.

20. A method of treating osteoporosis in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof.

21. The method of Claim 20 further comprising the administration of an agent selected from:

a) an estrogen or an estrogen derivative, alone or in combination with a progestin or progestin derivative,
b) a bisphosphonate,
c) an antiestrogen or a selective estrogen receptor modulator,
d) an $\alpha v\beta 3$ integrin receptor antagonist,
e) a cathepsin K inhibitor,
f) an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor,
g) an osteoclast vacuolar ATPase inhibitor,
h) an antagonist of VEGF binding to osteoclast receptors,
i) an activator of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor γ,
j) calcitonin,
k) a calcium receptor antagonist,
l) parathyroid hormone or analog thereof,
m) a growth hormone secretagogue,
n) human growth hormone,
o) insulin-like growth factor,
p) a p38 protein kinase inhibitor,

q) bone morphogenetic protein,
r) an inhibitor of BMP antagonism,
s) a prostaglandin derivative,
t) vitamin D or vitamin D derivative,
u) vitamin K or vitamin K derivative,
v) ipriflavone,
w) fluoride salts,
x) dietary calcium supplement, and
y) osteoprotegerin.

22. The method according to Claim 21, wherein said agent is selected from:
a) the estrogen or estrogen derivative, alone or in combination with a progestin or progestin derivative, is selected from conjugated estrogen, equine estrogen, 17β-estradiol, estrone, 17β-ethynyl estradiol, 17β-ethynyl estradiol with at least one agent selected from norethindrone and medroxyprogesterone acetate;
b) the bisphosphonate is selected from alendronate, clodronate, etidronate, ibandronate, incadronate, minodronate, neridronate, olpadronate, pamidronate, piridronate, risedronate, tiludronate, and zoledronate;
c) the antiestrogen or selective estrogen receptor modulator is selected from raloxifene, clomiphene, zuclomiphene, enclomiphene, nafoxidene, CI-680, CI-628, CN-55,945-27, Mer-25, U-11,555A, U-100A, tamoxifen, lasofoxifene, toremifene, azorxifene, EM-800, EM-652, TSE 424, droloxifene, idoxifene, and levormeloxifene;
d) the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from lovastatin, simvastatin, dihydroxy-open acid simvastatin, pravastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, cerivastatin, rosuvastatin, pitavastatin, and nisvastatin;
e) calcitonin is salmon calcitonin administered as a nasal spray;
f) bone morphogenetic protein is selected from BMP 2, BMP 3, BMP 5, BMP 6, BMP 7, TGF beta, and GDF5;
g) insulin-like growth factor is selected from IGF I and IGF II alone or in combination with IGF binding protein 3;

h) the prostaglandin derivative is selected from agonists of prostaglandin receptors EP_1, EP_2, EP_4, FP, and IP;

i) the fibroblast growth factor is selected from aFGF and bFGF;

j) parathyroid hormone (PTH) or PTH analog is selected from PTH subcutaneous injection, human PTH (1-84), human PTH (1-34), and other partial sequences, native or with substitutions;

k) vitamin D or vitamin D derivative is selected from natural vitamin D, 25-OH-vitamin D3, 1α,25(OH)$_2$ vitamin D3, 1α-OH-vitamin D3, 1α-OH-vitamin D2, dihydrotachysterol, 26,27-F6-1α,25(OH)$_2$ vitamin D3, 19-nor-1α,25(OH)$_2$vitamin D3, 22-oxacalcitriol, calcipotriol, 1α,25(OH)$_2$-16-ene-23-yne-vitamin D3(Ro 23-7553), EB1089, 20-epi-1α,25(OH)$_2$ vitamin D3, KH1060, ED71, 1α,24(S)-(OH)$_2$ vitamin D3, and 1α,24(R)-(OH)$_2$ vitamin D3;

l) the dietary calcium supplement is selected from calcium carbonate, calciumcitrate, and natural calcium salts; and

m) the fluoride salts are chosen from sodium fluoride and monosodium fluorophosphate (MFP); and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.

23. The method according to Claim 22, wherein the bisphosphonate is alendronate monosodium trihydrate or alendronate monosodium monohydrate.

24. The method of Claim 21, wherein said agent is selected from:

a) an estrogen or an estrogen derivative, alone or in combination with a progestin or progestin derivative,

b) a bisphosphonate,

c) an antiestrogen or a selective estrogen receptor modulator,

d) an αvβ3 integrin receptor antagonist,

e) a cathepsin K inhibitor,

f) an osteoclast vacuolar ATPase inhibitor,

g) calcitonin,

h) osteoprotegrin, and

i) parathyroid hormone or analog thereof.

25. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

26. A composition of Claim 25 which further comprises an active ingredient selected from:

a) an estrogen or an estrogen derivative, alone or in combination with a progestin or progestin derivative;
b) a bisphosphonate;
c) an antiestrogen or a selective estrogen receptor modulator,
d) an $\alpha v\beta 3$ integrin receptor antagonist,
e) a cathepsin K inhibitor,
f) an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor,
g) an osteoclast vacuolar ATPase inhibitor,
h) an antagonist of VEGF binding to osteoclast receptors,
i) an activator of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor γ,
j) calcitonin,
k) a calcium receptor antagonist,
l) parathyroid hormone or analog thereof,
m) a growth hormone secretagogue,
n) human growth hormone,
o) insulin-like growth factor,
p) a p38 protein kinase inhibitor,
q) bone morphogenetic protein,
r) an inhibitor of BMP antagonism,
s) a prostaglandin derivative,
t) vitamin D or vitamin D derivative,
u) vitamin K or vitamin K derivative,
v) ipriflavone,
w) fluoride salts,
x) dietary calcium supplement, and
y) osteoprotegerin.

27. A composition of Claim 26, wherein said bisphosphonate is alendronate.

28. A method of inhibiting bone resorption in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof.

29. A method of increasing Bone Mineral Density in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof.

30. A method of reducing the risk of vertebral or non-verterbral fractures in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof.

31. A method of effecting a bone turnover marker in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof, wherein said bone turnover marker is selected from urinary C-telopeptide degradation products of type I collagen (CTX), urinary N-telopeptide cross-links of type I collagen (NTX), DXA, and DPD.

32. A pharmaceutical composition made by combining a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

33. A process for making a pharmaceutical composition comprising combining a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

34. A method of treating or preventing an arthritic condition in a mammal in need thereof, comprising adminsitering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a stereoisomer thereof.

35. A method of Claim 34, wherein the arthritic conditions is selected from rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis.

36. A compound according to claim 1, selected from:

6-({[(3-methylphenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-[({[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-[({[1-(1-naphthyl)ethyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(3,5-difluorophenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[methyl(2-methylphenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[methyl(3-methylphenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[methyl(4-methylphenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[sec-butyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[allyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(2-hydroxyethyl)(phenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(4-hydroxyphenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(3-chlorophenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(4-chlorophenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(2-cyanoethyl)(phenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-[({methyl[4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(3,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(2,4-difluorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[benzyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[methyl(1-naphthyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[phenyl(1-phenylethyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate

6-({[cyclohexyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-[({[(1R)-1-phenylpropyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-[({[(1S)-1-phenylpropyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(3-chlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(2,5-dichlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(3,5-dichlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-6[({[3(trifluoromethyl)benzyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[benzyl(ethyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-[({methyl[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-[({methyl[(1S)-1-phenylethyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-{[(2-phenylpyrrolidin-1-yl)carbonyl]amino}-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(2-phenylcyclopropyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(4-methoxyphenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[(3,5-dimethylphenyl)(methyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
isopropyl-2-methylphenyl)(methyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-
(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-methoxypyridinium-2-yl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-
(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium bis(trifluoroacetate);
yl(3-methylbenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-
3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
3,4-dichlorobenzyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-[({[(2-bromothien-3-yl)methyl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-[({methyl[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-3-ium-2-
yl]amino}carbonyl)amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-
3H-benzimidazol-1-ium bis(trifluoroacetate);
6-({[(2,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-
2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
and stereoisomers thereof.

37. A compound according to claim 36, selected from:
6-({[methyl(3-methylphenyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[isopropyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[sec-butyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[allyl(phenyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[(3-chlorophenyl)(methyl)amino]-carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[(3,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-
benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-[({[(1R)-1-phenylpropyl]amino}carbonyl)-amino]-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[(3-chlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[(3,5-dichlorobenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[benzyl(ethyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[(3,5-dimethylphenyl)(methyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[ethyl(3-methylbenzyl)amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
and stereoisomers thereof.

38. A compound according to claim 1, selected from:
trans-5-{[1-(2-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-(4-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(3-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-(2-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-{[1-(1-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-(2,3-Diphenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-(2,2-Diphenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-(3-Cyclohexyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-(2-Bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate;

6-(2-Methyl-2-phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Methoxy-2-phenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Indan-2-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[(1-Indan-1-yl-methanoyl)-amino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Cyclopentyl-2-phenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Cyclohexyl-2-phenyl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(3,4-Dichloro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-{[1-(1-Phenyl-cyclopentyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(3,3-Diphenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Biphenyl-4-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(3-Nitro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;

6-[2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(Bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(4-Isopropyl-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(3-Fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(4-Hydroxy-phenyl)-propanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
and stereoisomers thereof.

39. A compound according to claim 38 selected from:
trans-5-{[1-(2-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate
6-(3-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-(2-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-{[1-(1-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-propanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-(2-Indan-2-yl-ethanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
6-[2-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-ethanoylamino]-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
and stereoisomers thereof.

40. A compound selected from:

N-(2-phenylcyclopropyl)-*N'*-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;

6-({[(3,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

6-({[(2,4-difluorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;

N-(1-phenylcyclopropyl)-*N'*-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;

N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)-phenyl]urea;

trans-5-{[1-(2-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;

(1*R*,2*R*)-2-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-amide;

(*1S,2S*)-2-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-amide;

5-(2-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;

5-{[1-(1-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;

(2*R*)-2-Phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;

3-Methyl-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;

(2*R*)-3-Methyl-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;

(2*S*)-3-Methyl-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;

3-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;

(2*R*)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;

(2*S*)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide; and

2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide.

41. A compound according to claim 40 selected from:

N-(1-phenylcyclopropyl)-*N''*-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;

trans-5-{[1-(2-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;

(1*R*,2*R*)-2-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-amide;
(*1S,2S*)-2-Phenyl-cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-amide;
5-(2-Phenyl-butanoylamino)-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
5-{[1-(1-Phenyl-cyclopropyl)-methanoyl]-amino}-2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-1-ium; 2,2,2-trifluoro-acetate;
(2*R*)-2-Phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
3-Methyl-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2*R*)-3-Methyl-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2*S*)-3-Methyl-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide;
(2*R*)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide;
(2*S*)-2-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-3H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-propionamide; and
2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyl-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide.

42. A compound according to claim 40 selected from:
N-(2-phenylcyclopropyl)-*N'*-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-6-yl]urea;
6-({[(3,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
6-({[(2,4-difluorophenyl)(methyl)-amino]carbonyl}amino)-2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-3H-benzimidazol-1-ium trifluoroacetate;
N-methyl-N'-[2-(1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-[2-(trifluoromethoxy)-phenyl]urea; and
3-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-*N*-(2-thiazol-4-yl-1H-benzoimidazol-5-yl)-butyramide.